

Application No. 10/009,398

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 3 and 9 are cancelled, claims 1, 4, 7-8, 10-14 are amended, and new claims 17 and 18 are added. The terms "filter means" and "isolation means" have been amended throughout the claims to read "filter circuitry" and "isolation circuitry." The references to "means" were introduced in translation and have been changed to clarify that they were not intended to invoke Section 112, sixth paragraph. The term "circuitry" is intended to encompass conventional circuits, integrated circuits and programmable gate arrays.

Applicant has made other amendments to the claims to clarify ambiguities introduced in the translation process and to conform the claims to United States practice.

Priority and 35 U.S.C. § 119(b)

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's notation that a certified copy of the 99/05202 application has not been filed. Applicant will supply a copy of the referenced application under separate cover shortly.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 14 because it depended from itself. By this amendment, Applicant has amended claim 14 to depend from claim 12. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 4, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for lack of antecedent basis. By this amendment, claim 9 has been cancelled and Applicant has amended claims 4, 7, 10, 11 and 13 to provide antecedent basis for the terms

Application No. 10/009,398

indicated by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5, 9, 10, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Stewart (U.S. Patent No. 3,860,757). By this amendment, claims 3 and 9 have been cancelled and Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite, "a first second order LC filter of high impedance, placed at the input of the device on the private installation side and a second filter, the second filter being coupled to the first second order LC filter by the isolation circuitry, wherein activation of the second filter depends directly on the isolation circuitry." The Stewart reference does not disclose or suggest such a limitation in combination with the other limitations recited in claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 should be patentable over the Stewart reference. Claims 2, 5 and 10 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and should be patentable for the same reasons as indicated above. Claims 12 and 13 incorporate the limitations of claim 1 and therefore should be patentable for the same reasons as indicated for claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections.

35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 4 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stewart in view of Williamson (U.S. Patent No. 6,477,249). As indicated above, claim 1 has been amended to recite elements not disclosed or suggested in the Stewart reference. Neither are these elements disclosed or suggested by Williamson. Therefore, claims 4 and 6-8 are patentable over Stewart in view of Williamson. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

The Examiner rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Stewart. As indicated above, Applicant has amended claim 1, the elements of which are included in claim

Application No. 10/009,398

14, to recite elements that are not disclosed or suggested by the Stewart reference. Therefore, claim 14 should be patentable over Stewart as well. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul C. Onderick  
Registration No. 45,354

Customer No. 24113  
Patterson, Thuent, Skaar & Christensen, P.A.  
4800 IDS Center  
80 South 8th Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2100  
Telephone: (612) 349-5766